



MD 97

Brookeville Transportation Study

PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Winter 2002

Greetings to All

It has been a while since the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) communicated with you regarding the MD 97 Brookeville Transportation Study. This newsletter will update you on the progress of the study since the Combined Location/Design Public Hearing.

SHA last met with you at the Rosa M. Parks Middle School for a Public Hearing held in October 2001. The purpose of the Combined Location/Design Public Hearing was to present the results of the engineering and environmental studies that had been completed for the MD 97 Brookeville project and to provide an opportunity for any interested individual, association, citizen group or government agency to offer verbal or written comments. Approximately 116 citizens attended the hearing. The alternates presented at the hearing were Alternate 1 (No-Build), Alternate 5C (Eastern Bypass), Alternate 7, Alternate 8A and Alternate 8B.

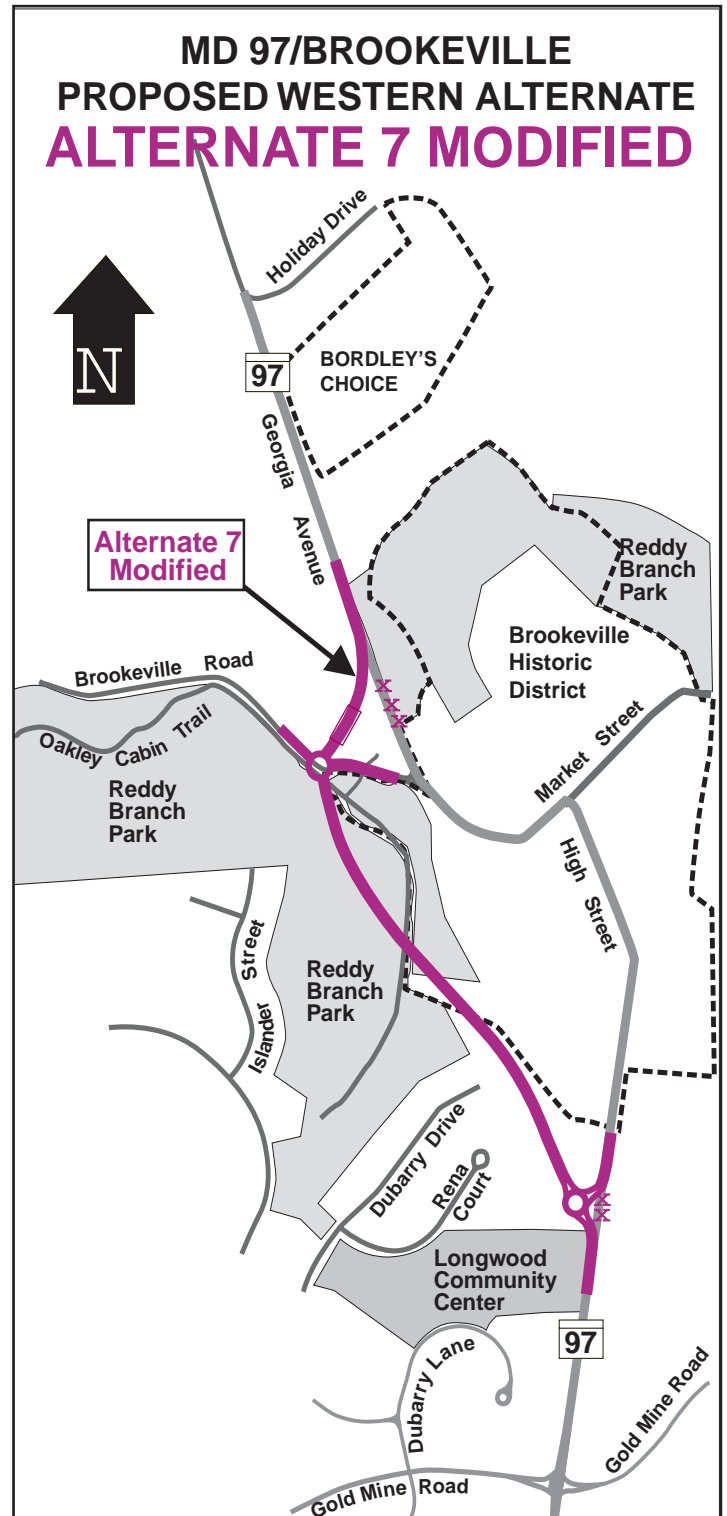
Alignment Modification

Following the Combined Location/Design Public Hearing there were concerns regarding a potential archeological site located within the historic district south of Brookeville Road. As a result of the archeological field work and to minimize impacts to the archeological site, Alternate 7 Modified was developed.

Preferred Alternative Identified and Approved

Alternate 7 Modified is similar to Alternate 7 except that Alternate 7 Modified is shifted approximately 30-40 feet in a westerly direction through the Reddy Branch Stream Valley Park in the vicinity of the proposed roundabout located at Brookeville Road.

Based on public input received at the hearing, feedback obtained from the MD 97 Brookeville Focus Group and



(Figure 1 - Study Area Map)

comments received from the environmental resource agencies, Alternate 7 Modified has been selected by the SHA Administrator as the SHA Selected Alternate for the MD 97 Brookeville Transportation Study.

A Closer Look at the SHA Selected Alternate

Alternate 7 Modified is located on the west side of Brookeville. Alternate 7 Modified departs from existing MD 97 south of the Longwood Community Center and heads in a northwesterly direction. It passes through a roundabout located near the northern edge of the community center. The roundabout provides access to existing MD 97 and the Town of Brookeville. The alignment then continues in a northwesterly direction through Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission property, which is reserved for transportation use, and through the Reddy Branch Park. It intersects Brookeville Road west of existing MD 97 at a roundabout and then continues in a northeasterly direction. The roundabout at Brookeville Road has four legs, two legs provide for the north and south movements and two legs provide for the east and west movements. The alternate ties into existing MD 97 north of Brookeville Road. The portion of existing MD 97

between the new connection and the Reddy Branch Park would be closed off to vehicular traffic.

Remaining Steps

- Preparation of Final Environmental Impact Statement (Spring 2003)
- Location/Design Approval (Summer 2003)
- Project Planning Complete (Summer 2003)

This project is not currently funded beyond project planning. Once we have Location Approval the project would then become a candidate for funding of future phases including, engineering, right-of-way acquisition and construction.

Questions?

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Information on this and other SHA projects can be obtained at the SHA web site at:
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